

Community Outreach and Underserved Populations

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The mission of the CADCs extends beyond the clinic walls through collaborations and community outreach. California, perhaps more than any other state, is facing huge increases in the number of elders from minority ethnic and diverse linguistic backgrounds. These seniors (and their families) face numerous barriers to dementia care.

The centers are at the forefront of using innovative approaches for providing clinical care and education to California's diverse population on how to best care for loved one's living with dementia, and to provide support for the caregivers. Through educational programs and support groups, the Centers have raised health-literacy about dementia-related issues, allowing families to provide better care and informing them about how to seek optimal care.

[Learn more about the value of the CADC support groups](#) [1]

[Learn more about CADC educational activities](#) [2].

Many of the CADCs are using innovative technologies to better serve their communities. [Learn more about each Center activities](#) [3].

One example of the many innovative CADC outreach programs is the Telemedicine Program described below.

Telemedicine: Reaching Rural California

Telemedicine is a new and innovative approach for providing care to Californians living in rural communities who are unable to travel to a CADC for specialty services. The UCSF-San Francisco CADC with a clinic located within the San Francisco VA Medical Center is providing this service to in the geographically remote areas of Northern California where access to specialized care may be limited. [Learn more about this new and effective community outreach program.](#) [4]

Developing Clinical Tools to Care for our Diverse Population

The CADCs are also leaders in developing and providing culturally sensitive diagnostic tools to meet the needs of California's diverse seniors.

- Improving dementia assessment enhances our understanding of the impact of Alzheimer's disease within the racially and culturally diverse communities of the state.
- Better evaluations directly impact the individual living with Alzheimer's disease, since medications, psychological or social interventions depends upon early intervention.

The CADCs have developed specialized instrumentation to evaluate dementia in California's diverse population, that include:

- Cross-Cultural Neuropsychological Battery (CCNB at UCI)
- Cognitive Abilities Screening Instrument (CASI at USC) in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Japanese
- Spanish and English Neuropsychological Assessment Scales (SENAS at UCD-Sacramento)
- Neuropsychiatric Inventory in Spanish (NPI-UCLA)

These new tools set the stage for action and inclusiveness, and allow the CADCs to improve

delivery and efficacy of treatments, while expanding education and community outreach to underserved communities.

These culturally competent services are not available to these citizens through any other organized mechanism.

Next: [Support Groups](#) [5]

Prev: [Providing Model Clinical Care](#) [6]

Source URL: <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/caring/outreach>

Links:

[1] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/caring/supportgroups>

[2] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/stories/educating>

[3] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/centers/thecenters>

[4] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/caring/outreach/telemedicine>

[5] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/caring/supportgroups>

[6] <http://cadc.ucsf.edu/cadc/caring/modelcare>